

WHOLE NUMBER DCCCVII.
LETTER FROM FREDERICK DOUGLASS.
LONDON, May 23, 1846.

MY DEAR FRIENDS—
I have made from the
column and highly gratifying
reception of Frederick
Douglass, who has been
the English friends of his
importance to his labor
contributed to his personal
country. While we
sympathy and generosity
that the cause here
will probably remain
removed; and we hope
without serious considera-

tion of the London
A. S. Society, we are not
should have compiled
a speech at the meeting
of the A. S. Society.
BY C. WRIGHT.
LONDON, May 31, 1846.

pride, boast and glory of which is that of having
blasted one of the fairest portions of our common
earth with slavery. It is but just to the friends of
political freedom here to say, that they regard the
hypocritical pretensions to democratic freedom in
America with absolute contempt, and ineffable dis-

gust. The time was, when America was known
abroad as the land of the free, but that time is past.
No intelligent and honest man, whose love of liberty
does not depend on the color of a man's skin, ever
thinks of America in connection with freedom, but
with abhorrence. Slavery gives character to the
American people. It dictates their laws, gives tone
to their literature, and shapes their religion. It stands
up in their midst, the only sovereign power in the
land. The friends of freedom here look upon Amer-

ica as one of the greatest obstacles in the way of po-
litical freedom, as she is now the great fact, illustrat-
ing the alleged truth, that the tyrant may be even
more tyrannical than the tyrant free.
On Thursday, I accepted an invitation to attend
and speak at the anniversary meeting of the National
Temperance Society, held in the far-famed Exeter
Hall. It was a splendid meeting. A resolution was
adopted, proposing a World's Convention to be held
in London, some time during the month of August.
It was supported by Mr. Joseph Sturge and myself.
I mention this, simply to call attention to a noble tes-

timony borne by Mr. Sturge against slaveholders—a
testimony which must have the best effect, just now.
Mr. Sturge is a thorough temperance man, and gives
largely in support of the cause. While speaking of
the proposed Convention, and of the possibility of
slaveholders being admitted into it as members, he
declared that, if slaveholders were admitted, he would
not sit in the Convention, or aid in any way what-

ever. He had contemplated giving the Society £50;
but he must find some other benevolent object upon
which to bestow that sum, if slaveholders were ad-
mitted into the Convention. Subsequently, Mr. Alex-
ander, a friend of temperance, and a member of the
Society of Friends, has taken the same ground. These
sentiments were loudly applauded by the meeting.
The feeling of 'NO UNION WITH SLAVEHOLDERS'
is becoming more and more general in London,
and throughout this country. American slaveholders
must prepare, not only to be excluded from the com-

munion of British Christians, but preposterously driven
from the platform of every philanthropic association.
Let them be humiliated on every side. Let them be
placed beyond the pale of respectability, and stand-
ing out separated, alone in their infamy, let the storm
gather over them, and its hottest bolts descend. Our
justification is ample—the slaveholder is a monster.
I ought to have said, while speaking of the anti-
slavery meeting at Finsbury Chapel, that Dr. Camp-
bell suggested that, in as much as it would be of
some importance to the anti-slavery cause to have
me remain in this country longer than I could be in-

duced to remain, absent from my family, measures
be at once taken, by which a sufficient amount could
be realized to enable me to bring my family to this
country. This suggestion being seconded by my
friend Mr. Thompson, in a very few minutes between
£20 and £30 were contributed for the purpose. This
result was entirely unexpected to me. I had not
even mentioned my desire for any such thing to the

meeting. I had said, however, to Mr. Thompson, and
also to Mr. Sturge, that I could not remain absent
from my family more than one year, and that I must
go home in August, unless I should decide to bring
my family to this country; and this may have led to
the suggestion by Dr. Campbell.
I have just received a letter from Mr. Sturge, the
chairman of the meeting at which the money was
raised, saying he will cause to be forwarded to any
person whom I may mention as my friend in the Uni-

ted States, five hundred dollars, to be appropriated to
the removal of my family to this country. So I rest
in the hope of soon being joined by my family in a
land where they will not be constantly harassed by
the apprehension, that some foul imp of a slaveholder
may lay his infernal clutch upon me, and tear me
from their midst. Master Hugh must bear the loss
of my service one year longer, and it may be, I shall
remain absent two years. Please send him a paper,
containing this announcement, and exhort him to
patience. It may serve to ease, if not cure, his an-

xiety. He must feel my absence keenly, and
must suffer greatly; for of all pain, I believe that of
suspense is the most severe. By the way, one of the
charges I have preferred against master Thomas Auld,
and one which he seems the most angry about, re-

spects his meanness; and the fact illustrative of this
trait brought forward in my Narrative, is that he once
owned a young woman, a cousin of mine, whose right
hand had been so burnt as to make it useless to her
through life—and finding this young woman of little
or no value to him, he very generously gave her to
his sister Sarah. Seized, I suppose, with a similar
fit of benevolence, he has transferred his legal right
of property in my body and soul, to his less fortunate
brother Hugh. And master Hugh (for so I suppose I
must call him) seems to be very proud of the gift, and
means to play the part of a hungry blood-hound in
catching me. Possess your soul in patience, dear
master Hugh, and regale yourself on the golden
dainties afforded by the prospect—First catch your
rabbit, &c. &c.

But I am wandering. My visit to this city has been
exceedingly gratifying, on account of the freedom
I have enjoyed in visiting such places of instruction
and amusement as those from which I have been
carefully excluded by the inveterate prejudice
against color in the United States. Botanic and Zoolog-
ical gardens, Museums and Pantheons, Halls of
Statuary and Galleries of Paintings, are as free to
the black as the white man in London. There is
no distinction on account of color. The white man
goes nothing by being white, and the black man
loses nothing by being black. 'A man's man for a'

man.' I went on Tuesday morning, in company with
Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, to see Cremore Garden, a
place of recreation and amusement—a most beautiful
and picturesque spot, delightfully situated on the
bank of the Thames, at the west end of the city. I
was admitted without a whisper of objection on the
part of the proprietor or spectators. Every one
looked as though they thought I had as much right
there as themselves, and not the slightest dislike was
manifested toward me on account of my negro ori-

gin, unless a gentleman from Boston, who was in the
Garden while I was there, he an exception—and I
will not say that he was. He had just brought to the
Garden a panorama of Boston, rolled up in a long
case, which was so heavy as to require eight men to
carry it. Soon after its arrival, the proprietor told
me what it was. I then said I knew Boston, and
should be glad to see a panorama of it, but was in-

formed it would not be presented for exhibition for
two or three weeks, as the place was not quite ready
for it. My American friend, whom I took to be the
artist, on learning that I knew Boston, at once made
inward me, without the slightest ceremony or cir-

cumlocution ordinarily resorted to by gentlemen
when approaching a stranger, and bolting up to me,
he asked, in much the same tone which a white man
employs when addressing a slave by the way-side—
'Well, boy, who do you belong to?'—Do you know
Boston? 'Yes, Sir.' 'Well, if you know Boston,
you know it is the handsomest city in the world!'
This left me without a doubt as to the Yankee origin
of my friend, I felt quite at home in his pres-

ence. He eloquently decanted on the beauties of
Boston, quoting various authorities as proof of his po-
sition, that Boston is the most beautiful city in the
world. I replied, that Boston is a very handsome
city, but I thought not the handsomest in the world.
He proceeded to speak of Edinburgh. But a
very few moments convinced me, that my patriotic
friend had no ear for the praise of any other city than
Boston; so we separated. We, however, met again

in the course of half an hour, when his tone was
quite altered, and his manner quite changed. We
had a very pleasant interview. He asked if my name
was Douglass, and being answered in the affirmative,
expressed pleasure at seeing me, and said he had fre-

quently heard of me since he came to this country.
There is one remarkable peculiarity in all the
Americans with whom I have had the pleasure to
meet on this side of the Atlantic, and that is, their
adaptability to circumstances. Persons, who would
feel themselves disgraced by being seen conversing
at the same table with me in London?

On Wednesday, I went to see the 'assembled wis-

dom' of this great nation—Parliament. Through the
kindness of my friend George Thompson, I gained
admission to the Speaker's Gallery, which is quite a
privilege. Here I found myself beside the Rev. Mr.
Kirk, of Boston, who seemed in no way shocked at
being seated on the same bench with a negro, but
rather pleased with having met me. I was fortunate
in the choice of the time of going, for I found there
were selected three hours when I could have heard
a greater number of distinguished members. A bill
was before the House, for restricting the hours of
factory labor. Sir James Graham, Sir John Hob-

house, Lord George Bentinck, son of the Duke of
Portland, Mr. Gresham, Mr. Wakely, Mr. Farren,
Mr. John Bright, Mr. Crawford, &c. Brotherton, Sir
Robert Peel, Lord John Russell, and several other
members, addressed the House on the subject. When
the vote was to be taken, the galleries were cleared,
so that the spectator is not allowed to see who votes
for or against a measure. I was much pleased with
the respectful manner with which members spoke
of each other. Never having enjoyed the privilege of
witnessing the legislative proceedings of our great
nation, I cannot say in what respect they differ, or in
what respect the one is to be preferred to the other.

All I know is, if I should presume to go into Wash-

DR. STOCKING

No. 266 WASHINGTON-STREET, (CORNER ...)